

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to the optical pickup of the above preferred embodiment, fluctuations in oscillation wavelength due to temperature changes as the emission characteristic of the LD chip 86 can be reduced to reduce the influence of chromatic aberration of an optical system. Further, since the Si substrate 76 is insulated from the step stem 74 by the SiO<sub>2</sub> film 77, a deterioration in radiation characteristic can be reduced. Further, the conductor film 178 is provided between the LD chip 86 and the Si substrate 76, and the conductor film 178 is set at the same electric potential as a ground potential. Accordingly, it is possible to avoid the crosstalk between a drive signal to the LD chip 86 in writing data and output signals from the PIN-photodiodes 80a and 80b for detection of a focusing error signal, the PIN-photodiodes 82a and 82b for detection of a tracking error signal, and the PIN-photodiode 84 for detection of monitor light.